

NOTES AND MEMORANDA

The Eugenics Society

A FEW domestic notes.

Fellows and Members will have seen with pleasure the inclusion of Sir Cyril Burt's name in a recent Honours List. We are happy to announce that Sir Cyril's memorandum on *Intelligence and Fertility*, submitted to the Royal Commission on Population, is now at the printers and will shortly be available.

The *Society* unites in welcoming the return of Lord Horder to the office of President. It will be recalled that, under the Articles of Association, this office can be held for only six successive years; but it was one of the few fortunes of war that we were able to keep Lord Horder for a further three-year period. When his resignation took effect we said that he was irreplaceable—and this was no mere figure of speech, for in fact he was not replaced. The *Society* greets him on his return to office as an old and tried friend.

At the same time we take leave of our Honorary Treasurer—though, happily only in his capacity as Treasurer—after a close association over some fifteen years. Mr. Clinton Chance, whose resignation took effect in May, when the *Society* held its annual meeting, first joined the Council in 1931; and from 1933, when he took office as Honorary Treasurer, the *Society* has, quite literally, profited from the boundless energy and the vast knowledge of financial operations that he has put so unstintingly at its service. If to-day the *Society* is prosperous and secure, the credit for the arrangements that have brought about this agreeable state of affairs must go to Mr. Chance, who with unfailing flexibility of mind adapted his policy, sometimes involving free spending, sometimes retrenchment, to the bewildering changes of circumstances in the years before, during and since the war. No one could have brought such tireless application to the task without the constant stimulus of interest in all the *Society* stands for; and in fact Clinton Chance's association with the *Eugenics Society* dates back to 1927 when he

was responsible, with his friend Margaret Sanger, for the organization of the Population Conference then held in Geneva. He became Treasurer of the *Society* at a decisive moment in its history—the year when the Twitchin Bequest came at its disposal; and from then the responsibility of investing large sums of money on the *Society's* behalf has rested mainly on his shoulders. To this debt we owe him another, more personal, for it was through him that Lord Horder was first introduced to the *Society*, beginning the association which we are still privileged to enjoy to-day.

The *Society* offers a warm welcome to Clinton Chance's successor in the office of Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Geoffrey Eley, who for some two years has served the *Society* both on its Council and Finance Committee.

National Baby Welfare Council

The annual general meeting of the National Baby Welfare Council was held in the St. Pancras Town Hall on May 21st. Lord Forrester, Chairman of the Council, presided, and gave an excellent address on the great need of maternity and child welfare throughout the British Commonwealth.

After an inspiring report from Dr. D. H. Geffen, a discussion on food and maternity and child welfare was opened by Dr. Edith Summerskill, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, who presented many interesting and encouraging facts with admirable precision. For instance, infant mortality in 1940 was 50 per thousand; in 1941 it rose to 60 per thousand. Extra milk and vitamins for expectant mothers were then introduced by the Minister of Health, and the infant mortality fell to 45 per thousand. For every life saved, many more healthy babies are reared who might otherwise have been puny, so it is obvious that this measure alone has both "improved the inborn qualities of the race" and "developed them to the utmost advantage." Dr. Summerskill claimed that "the first-fruits of our victory are fine bouncing babies."

There was a good discussion. All the speakers maintained that a country's true wealth is its children; the need to enlighten and train fathers as well as mothers was accepted.

This year's National Baby Week, July 1st to 7th, lays special stress on the need for "Better Parentcraft," *i.e.* better parents.

U. G. D.

Central Council for Health Education

The Central Council for Health Education is holding a summer school at Somerville College, Oxford, during August. The fact that there are no further vacancies for this school is an indication of the widespread interest taken in the subject. U. G. D.

Courtship and Mating

WE are indebted to Mr. L. J. Cadbury for the following details of a Gallup Poll initiated by the British Institute of Public Opinion.

TO MARRIED WOMEN: "What do you think is the main fault of husbands?"

| | Per cent. |
|---|-----------|
| Selfishness | 12 |
| Lack of consideration for wives | 7 |
| Thoughtlessness | 6 |
| Take wives too much for granted | 6 |
| Too autocratic: don't like wives to have any freedom or minds of their own | 2 |
| Expect too much from wives: too hard to please | 2 |
| Don't show same courtesy after marriage as before | 2 |
| Don't appreciate difficulties of housekeeping under present conditions | 6 |
| Tight-fisted: won't give enough money for housekeeping | 2 |
| Too extravagant | 2 |
| Don't take enough interest in the home | 2 |
| Drink too much | 5 |
| Smoke too much | 2 |
| Miscellaneous faults | 7 |
| No fault to find | 12 |
| No reply: don't know | 25 |
| | 100 |

TO MARRIED MEN: "What do you think is the main fault of wives?"

| | Per cent. |
|--|-----------|
| Nagging | 7 |
| Talking too much | 7 |
| Expect too much from their husbands: too hard to please | 5 |
| Worry too much | 5 |
| Interfere too much | 2 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Too wrapped up in domestic duties | 7 |
| Governed too much by emotion | 6 |
| Too extravagant | 6 |
| Want too much freedom and independence | 2 |
| Too pleasure-loving | 2 |
| Think too much about clothes | 2 |
| Selfishness | 2 |
| Bad temper | 2 |
| Miscellaneous faults | 12 |
| No fault to find | 17 |
| No reply: don't know | 16 |
| | 100 |

In similar polls taken in the United States and Canada, drinking headed the list of wives' and nagging that of husbands' complaints.

League of Nations Publications

FROM time to time League of Nations publications are received at this office. They are all of a most impressive quality and of the utmost value in their respective fields. It would be a mockery to attempt to review them, and we can only draw attention to the following among the more recent titles:

- Food Rationing and Supply, 1943-44.* 1944. Pp. 101. Price 4s. 6d.
- Statistical Yearbook, 1942-44.* 1945. Pp. 315. Price 10s.
- World Economic Survey, 1942-44.* 1945. Pp. 292. Price 10s.
- Commercial Policy in the Post-War World.* 1945. Pp. 124. Price 5s.
- Economic Stability in the Post-War World.* 1945. Pp. 319. Price 10s.
- The Mandates System: Origins—Principles—Application.* 1945. Pp. 120. Price 4s.
- Pre-war Production and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and their Raw Materials.* 1944. Pp. 32. Price 2s.
- The League of Nations Reconstruction Schemes in the Inter-War Period.* 1945. Pp. 171. Price 5s.
- Report on the Work of the League, 1943-44.* 1945. Pp. 100. Price 2s.
- Report on the Work of the League during the War.* 1945. Pp. 167. Price 2s.
- Bulletin of the Health Organization, Vol. XI, 1945.*
- Bibliography of the Technical Work of the Health Organization of the League of Nations, 1920-1945.* Pp. 235. Price 6s.
- Handbook of Infectious Diseases with Notes on Prophylaxis, Serum Treatment and Vaccination.* 1945. Pp. 331. Price 5s.

These publications may be obtained from Messrs. Allen & Unwin Ltd. (League of Nations Publications Department), 40 Museum Street, London, W.C.1.

Publications Received

THE following publications have been received during the past quarter :

- Adrian, E. D. *Brain Rhythms*. Reprint from *The Smithsonian Report*, 1944.
 American Academy of Political and Social Science. *The Annals : Controlling Group Prejudices*. March 1946. Pp. 240.
 —. *The Annals : Essential Human Rights*. January 1946. Pp. 195.
 Barlow, E. K. *A Home of Their Own*. 1946. Faber. Pp. 96. Price 4s. 6d.
 Bibby, C. *How Life is Handed On*. 1946. Nelson. Pp. 83. Price 6s.
 Charlesworth, B. *The Eternal Art : Being a Speech made by Mars in his own Defence as God of War*. 1945. W. H. Allen. Pp. 48. Price 9d.
 Deutsch, H. *Psychology of Women*. Vol. I, Girlhood. 1946. Heinemann (for Research Books Ltd.). Pp. 312. Price 21s.
 Ford, C. S. *A Comparative Study of Human Reproduction*. 1945. Yale University Press. Pp. 111. Price 10s. (Oxford University Press.)
The Howard Journal. 7, 1. 1945-6. Price 1s.
 Klein, V. *The Feminine Character*. 1946. Kegan Paul. Pp. 228.
 Kreckler, F. H. *Woods and Trees : Philosophical Implications of Some Facts of Science*. Reprint from *The Smithsonian Report*, 1944.
 Landau, R. *Sex Life and Faith*. 1946. Faber. Pp. 319. Price 21s.
 Lea, D. E. *Actions of Radiations on Living Cells*. 1946. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 402. Price 21s.
 Livingstone, E. & S., Ltd. *Catalogue of Medical, Surgical, Nursing, Dental and Scientific Books*. Copies will be sent on application to 16-17 Teviot Place, Edinburgh, 1.
 Lotka, A. J. *The Law of Evolution as a Maximal Principle*. Reprint from *Human Biology*. 1945. 17, 3.
 Marriage Guidance Council. *Sex in Marriage*. Marriage Guidance Booklets, No. 1. 1946. Pp. 20. Price 6d.
 Chandler, A. C. *Biology and Medicine*. Reprint from *The Smithsonian Report*, 1944.
 Robb, J. C. *Courtship and Marriage : Christian or Pagan?* Dublin, 1945. Warren. Pp. 39. Price 1s.
 Seidel, R. E., and Winter, M. E. *The New Microscopes*. Reprint from *The Smithsonian Report*, 1944.
 United States Department of State. *Anglo-American Financial and Commercial Agreements*. December 1945. Pp. 12.
 —. *Proposals for Expansion of World Trade and Employment*. November 1945. Pp. 28.

Recent Additions to the Library

THE following books have been added to the library since April 1946 :

- Abrahamsen, D. *Crime and the Human Mind*. 1944. Pp. 244.
 Abrams, M. *The Condition of the British People*. 1946. Pp. 119.
 Baker, J. R. *Science and the Planned State*. 1946. Pp. 120.
 Benians, E. A. *Race and Nation in the United States*. 1946. Pp. 48.
 Bibby, C. *How Life is Handed On*. 1946. Pp. 96.
 Bishop, P. M. F. *The Management of the Undescended Testicle*. 1945. Reprinted from Guy's Hospital Reports, 94, 1, 2. Presented by Dr. C. P. Blacker.
 Blacker, C. P. *Neurosis and the Mental Health Services*. 1946. Pp. 218.
 Bourdillon, A. F. C. (Editor). *Voluntary Social Services*. 1945. Pp. 322.
 Bowley, A. H. *The Problems of Family Life*. 1946. Pp. 100.
 British Medical Association Committee. *A Charter for Health*. 1946. Pp. 95.
 Corner, G. W. *Ourselves Unborn*. 1944. Pp. 188.
 Gantt, W. H. *Experimental Basis for Neurotic Behaviour*. 1944. Pp. 211.
 Grundy, F., and Titmuss, R. M. *Report on Luton*. 1945. Pp. 139. Presented by Dr. C. P. Blacker.
 Hughes, E. C. *French Canada in Transition*. 1943. Pp. 277.
 Keith, A. *Essays on Human Evolution*. 1946. Pp. 224.
 Klein, V. *The Feminine Character*. 1946. Pp. 228.
 Landau, R. *Sex Life and Faith*. 1946. Pp. 319.
 Lea, D. E. *Actions of Radiations on Living Cells*. 1946. Pp. 402.
 League of Nations. *Annual Reports on Child Welfare*. 1940-44.
 —. *Summary of the Legislative and Administrative Series of Documents of the Child Welfare Information Centre*. 1940 : 1941.
 —. *Bulletin of the Health Organization*. Vol. 9, No. 4. Health in Europe. 1943-44. Pp. 557-772.
 —. *Bulletin of the Health Organization*. Vol. 11. Bibliography of the Technical Work of the Health Organization of the League of Nations, 1920-45. Pp. 235.
 Lewis's 1844-1944 : *A Brief Account of a Century's Work*. 1946. Pp. 89. Presented by Dr. C. P. Blacker.
 Marchant, J. (Editor). *Post-War Britain*. 1945. Pp. 240.
 Meaker, S. R. *Human Sterility*. 1934. Pp. 276.
Mental Treatment Act. Eire, 1945. Pp. 111.
 Ministry of Health. *Summary Report of the Ministry of Health for the Year ended March 31st, 1945*. Pp. 84.

- Moore, W. E. *Economic Demography of Eastern and Southern Europe*. 1945. Pp. 299.
- Parkinson, J. *Rheumatic Fever and Heart Disease*. 1945. Pp. 32. Presented by Dr. C. P. Blacker.
- Registrar-General's *Statistical Review of England and Wales for the Year 1941*. Tables, Pt. I. Medical. 1945. Pp. 322.
- Registrar-General for Scotland. *89th Annual Report, 1943*. 1946. Pp. 143.
- Schrödinger, E. *What is Life?* 1945. Pp. 91.
- Straus, N. *The Seven Myths of Housing*. 1945. Pp. 314.
- Walker, K., and Strauss, E. B. *Sexual Disorders in the Male*. 1946. Pp. 249.
- Warner, W. Ll., Havinghurst, R. J., and Loeb, M. *Who Shall Be Educated?* 1946. Pp. 180.

- White, M. J. D. *Animal Cytology and Evolution*. 1945. Pp. 375.
- Young, K. *A Handbook of Social Psychology*. 1946. Pp. 578.

Elections to the Society

THE following have been elected Fellows (starred) and Members of the Society during the past quarter :

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| *J. L. Burn, Esq., M.D., | Dr. Pamela Laws |
| D.Hy., D.P.H. | The Rev. Kenneth |
| The Hon. P. Kindersley | Parkinson, M.A., |
| Robert Alan Laws, Esq., | A.C.I.S. |
| A.C.A. | Mrs. A. Smith |

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

GENETICS

- Lea, D. E.** *Actions of Radiations on Living Cells*. Cambridge, 1946. Cambridge University Press. Pp. xii + 402. Price 21s.

Books and reviews on radiation genetics have so far been mainly presented by geneticists. But this field has now become so quantitative in its results that its physical aspects can no longer be mastered by the geneticist alone. It is therefore to be welcomed that a physicist with considerable experience in this field has now presented the research worker with the physical background necessary for the critical evaluation of the data. In an opening chapter the main physical properties of gamma rays, X-rays, alpha rays, neutrons and ultra-violet light are described and the mechanisms by which they dissipate their energy on passing through matter are dealt with quantitatively. This is followed by a consideration of the chemical effects of ionizing radiations and the possible ways in which they may affect the living cell. The "traget theory" next discussed culminates in the estimation of the size of the gene. Applying similar principles to the inactivation of viruses by ionizing

radiations, it appears likely that the smaller crystallizable viruses are "naked genes." The inactivation properties of larger viruses (vaccinia virus, etc.) suggest a more complex structure; not the whole of the virus particle seems to be radiation-sensitive, and its "nucleus" may contain roughly 100 genes, while data on the killing of bacteria suggest something like 250 genes for this group of organisms. A detailed discussion of the production of structural changes of chromosomes and the mechanism of their induction by radiations is also given. This is only a selection of the more important subjects dealt with in this book, which is concluded by a bibliography of 20 pages and by adequate indices. The book is authoritative and readable throughout and should be of considerable value to research workers in this field, both biologists and physicists.

H. G. HILL.

- Darlington, C. D., and Ammal, E. K. Janaki.** *Chromosome Atlas of Cultivated Plants*. London, 1945. Allen & Unwin. Pp. 397. Price 12s. 6d.

"THERE are two reasons why botanical studies of all kinds have been concentrated on cultivated plants. The first is the obvious